



## MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 11-02

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# Heavy Weather Planning Guidance for the Marine Industry

The Captain of The Port (COTP) Houston-Galveston has issued DRAFT planning guidelines for the marine industry to assist you in the development of heavy weather plans for terminals, facilities, and vessels. The DRAFT guidelines are available on-line and can be downloaded at <http://www.uscg.mil/msohoustongalveston/portinformation/severeweath.html>.

These planning guidelines contain general information about hurricanes and tropical storms, local planning factors for the maritime sector, and check lists that may be useful in preparing individual company or vessel plans. The guidelines also contain details on the Coast Guard Atlantic Area port operations severe weather policy and a description of the process to request permission to remain in port when a storm threatens.

These planning guidelines will form the basis for a series of tabletop exercises intended to solicit input from every sector of the maritime community on actions necessary to prepare our port for the onset of heavy weather. Following these exercise the planning guidelines will be revised as needed, and published as a COTP Policy Letter.

The first exercise is scheduled for Friday, 14 June at the Texas Cruise Ship Terminal on Galveston Island. The exercise will begin at 0830. All members of the local maritime community are invited to attend, and maritime interests from the ports of Galveston and Texas City are strongly encouraged to attend and participate.

Follow-on exercise will be scheduled for the ports of Houston and Freeport in July. Details will be released by separate announcement. For more information on the planning guidelines and tabletop exercises, or to RSVP for Galveston/Texas City exercise on 14 June, please contact LT Joe Leonard at 409-766-5400 or [jleonard@msugalveston.uscg.mil](mailto:jleonard@msugalveston.uscg.mil)

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